



COUNTY OF PRINCE WILLIAM

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April 24, 2009

The Honorable Frank R. Wolf
241 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Wolf:

On behalf of the Prince William Board of County Supervisors, I am writing to request your assistance in securing funding in the upcoming reauthorization of the federal surface transportation program for the **I-66 Widening from Route 29 to Route 15/Interchange Construction at Route 15** which has been designated by the Prince William Board of County Supervisors as a high priority for the County and for the entire region. We know that resources are limited and we have, therefore, worked very hard to narrow down our requests to those high priority projects for which we urgently need federal support in order to continue to address mobility issues in the County and in the region.

I-66 is the major east-west route from Washington D.C. to I-81 in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley. The current roadway configuration has served the area well but has been overtaken by commercial and population growth in our region. Today there are over 45,000 vehicles per day that travel this section of roadway. The project will add general purpose and High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes in each direction, and reconstruct the I-66 / Route 15 interchange. This project will help maintain a congestion free corridor for interstate commerce to travel. This relief will allow for less fuel consumption by commercial vehicles and commuters, and would also alleviate time constraints on the trucking and transportation industries. This project will complement the improvements made to I-66 that have recently been constructed or are in the process of construction from Sudley Road to the Route 29 Interchange. **For these reasons, the Prince William Board of County Supervisors is in support of the I-66 Widening from Route 29 to Route 15/Interchange Construction at Route 15.**

This project is in the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) Six Year Improvement Program. VDOT will be providing opportunities for public comment as required by the Federal Highway Administration.

In this iteration of the federal surface transportation program, we are requesting \$12 million for preliminary engineering. The Commonwealth of Virginia will match this with \$2.8 million of their own funds, which should be enough to fund 100% of the preliminary engineering costs. There is also \$190,000 in 2009 federal transportation appropriation funds available for this project.

Your continuing assistance with critical transportation needs in Prince William County has enabled us to address severe congestion issues. This and other high priority projects will enable to us to continue to build on these successful efforts.

Thank you again for your continuing leadership on transportation issues in Prince William County and throughout our region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Corey A. Stewart', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Corey A. Stewart

Cc: Board of County Supervisors